

# Politics of Eurasia

## 1450-1750



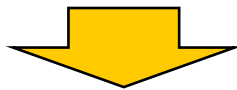
AP World History

# Post-Classical Europe: A Review

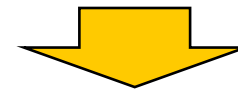
**Roman Empire**  
(31 BCE – 476 CE)



**Germanic Kingdoms**  
Clovis, Charlemagne, etc.



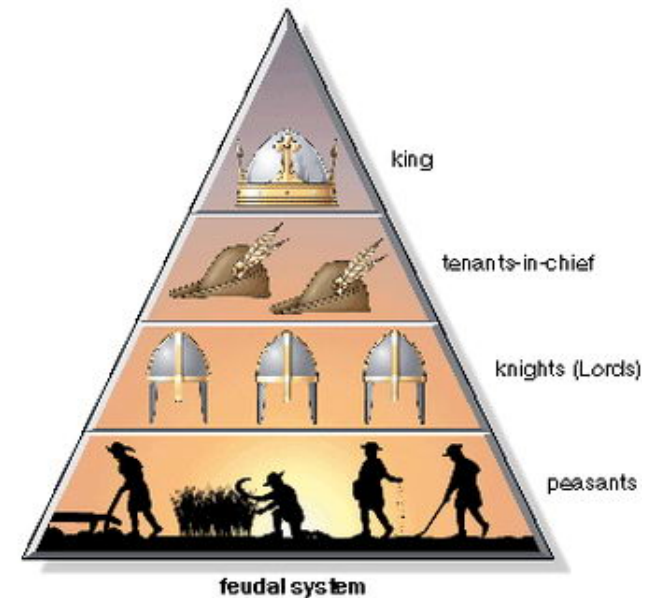
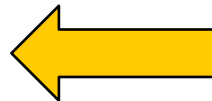
**Byzantine Empire**  
(conquered 1453)



**Feudal Kingdoms**

**Feudal Monarchy**  
France, England, etc.

Magna  
Carta,  
1215



# European Government 1450-1750

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## □ Three new developments

### ■ Rise of nation-states

- A political unit consisting of an autonomous state inhabited predominantly by a people sharing a common culture, history, and language.

### ■ Rise of absolute monarchy

- Monarch serves as the *source of power* in the state and is not legally bound by any constitution

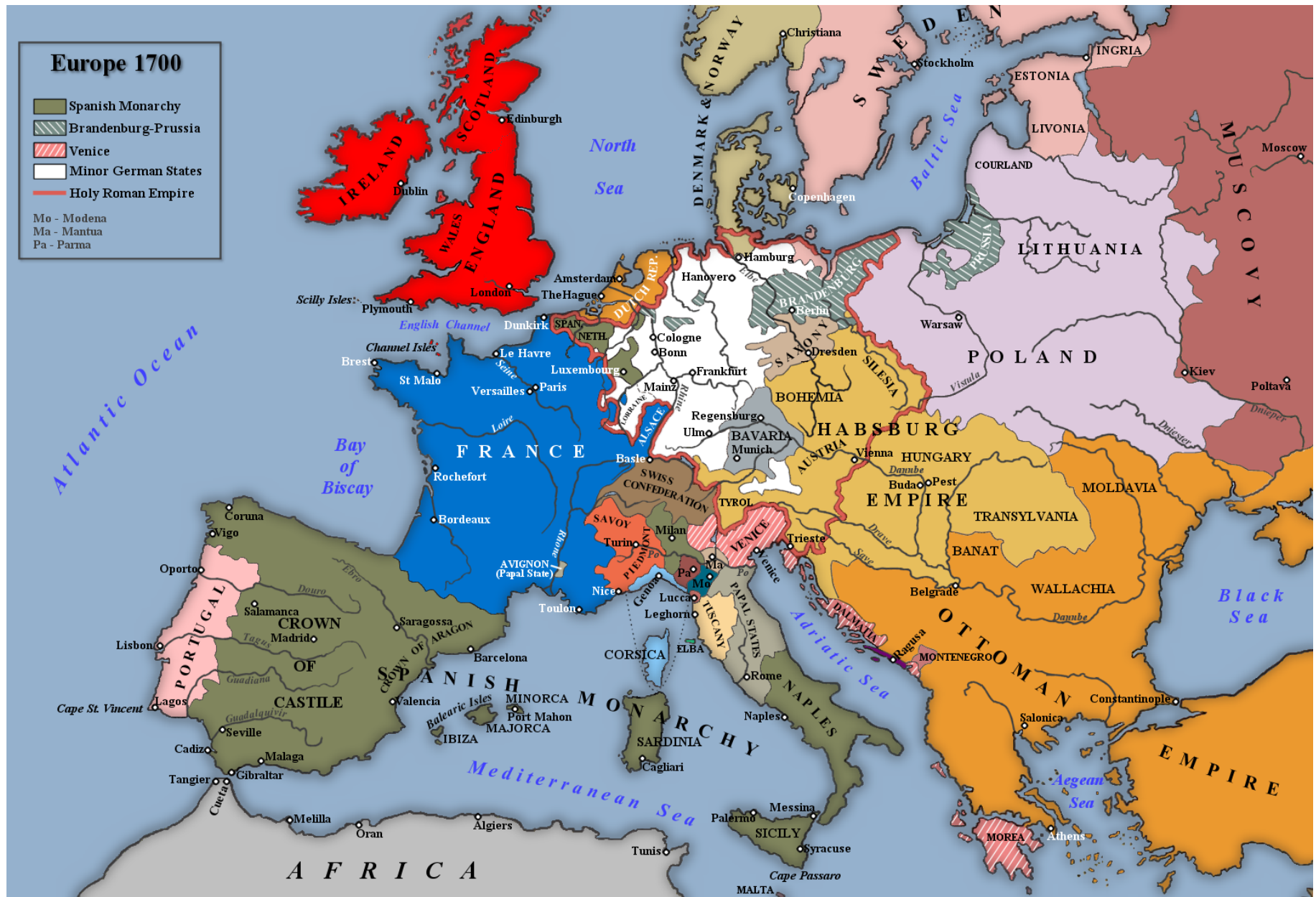
### ■ Rise of limited monarchy

- Parliamentary monarchy or constitutional monarchy (England & Netherlands)
- Monarch acts as *head of state* within the parameters of a constitution

## Europe 1700

- Spanish Monarchy
- Brandenburg-Prussia
- Venice
- Minor German States
- Holy Roman Empire

Mo - Modena  
Ma - Mantua  
Pa - Parma





# Absolute Monarchy: France

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- ❑ Louis XIV (1638-1715)
  - Named king at age 4
  - Aided by Cardinal Mazarin until 1661
    - ❑ Secularized France
    - ❑ Promoted France as a nation-state
  - Believed the monarch personified the state
    - ❑ Nicknamed the Sun King
    - ❑ “L’État c’est moi” or “I am the state”



# Reign of Louis XIV

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- ❑ Limited power of nobility & Catholic church
  - Increased size of French bureaucracy
- ❑ Mercantilism was used to increase the wealth of France
  - With mercantilism the monarch controls trade
  - Jean Baptiste Colbert
- ❑ Colonization
  - North America and India
- ❑ Built the Palace of Versailles

# Palace of Versailles





# Palace of Versailles



- ❑ Palace used as a symbol of French wealth and power
- ❑ Daily routines at Versailles were exploited by Louis XIV
  - Nobility competed against each other to perform menial tasks for the king



# Hall of Mirrors

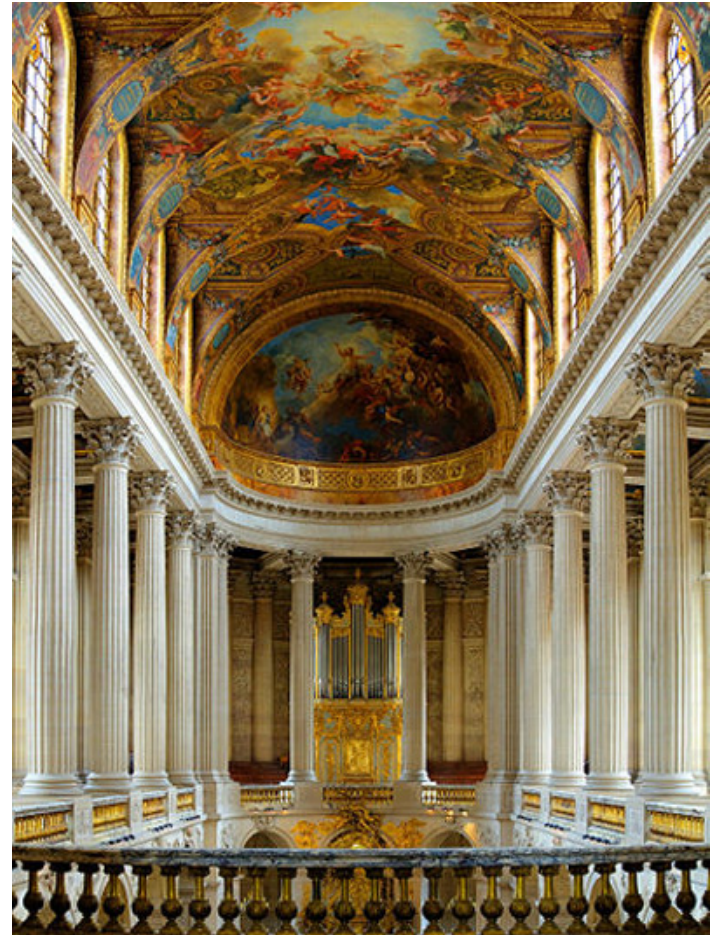




# Versailles – Some Statistics

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- ❑ Modern cost: over \$2,000,000,000
- ❑ Annual upkeep took 25% of France's income
- ❑ Main wing 500 yards long
  - Two wings: 150 yards long
- ❑ 2,000 rooms
- ❑ 15,000 acres of gardens with 1,400 fountains





# Spain: Philip II

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- ❑ First absolute monarch?
- ❑ Ruled Spain (1556-1598) during the “Golden Age of Spain”
- ❑ Devout Catholic
- ❑ Wars with England
  - Married Mary I of England
  - Invaded England with Spanish Armada in 1588

# Spanish Palace of Philip V

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Look familiar?

# Frederick II of Prussia

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- Absolute ruler of Prussia (1740-1786)
- Unified Prussia, part of the Holy Roman Empire, into one nation
- Built on of Europe's most powerful militaries
- Supported the Enlightenment
  - Enlightened despot



# Palace of Frederick II

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Not again...



# Maria Theresa of Austria

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- ❑ Absolute monarch of Austria (1740-1780)
- ❑ Enlightened Despot
- ❑ Eased taxes and gave more rights to her subjects
- ❑ Gave birth to 16 children while in power
  - Most famous child was Marie Antoinette

# Austrian Palace of Maria Theresa

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Can I get unoriginal palaces for \$1000?...



### 1 EURASIAN LAND EMPIRES C. 1700

Boundary of empire at greatest extent in 16th–18th centuries:

- Ottoman 1683
- Russian 1795
- Manchu Qing 1760
- Safavid 1514



► Despite periods of vigorous territorial and economic expansion, the great land empires failed to participate in the commercial revolution led by the countries of northern Europe in the 17th and 18th centuries. In 1700 they still covered vast areas, but in the following century the three Muslim empires – the Mughal, Safavid and Ottoman – declined as the commercial and military power of the Europeans expanded.

# EURASIAN EMPIRES

# Rise of Empire: Russia

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- Ivan the Great (1440-1505)
  - Creates a strong army
  - Used loyalties to the Orthodox Church
- Ivan the Terrible (1533-1584)
  - Increased power of the tsar
- Patterns of Expansion
  - Cossacks
  - End independence of Central Asia
  - Multinational Empire

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# Rise of Empires: Ottoman

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- ❑ Osman (1258-1326)
  - Unites Turks against Mongols
- ❑ Mehmed II (1432-1481)
  - Conquered Byzantine Empire
- ❑ Methods
  - Ghazi
  - Gunpowder
  - Janissaries
    - ❑ Devshirme—"Blood Tax"







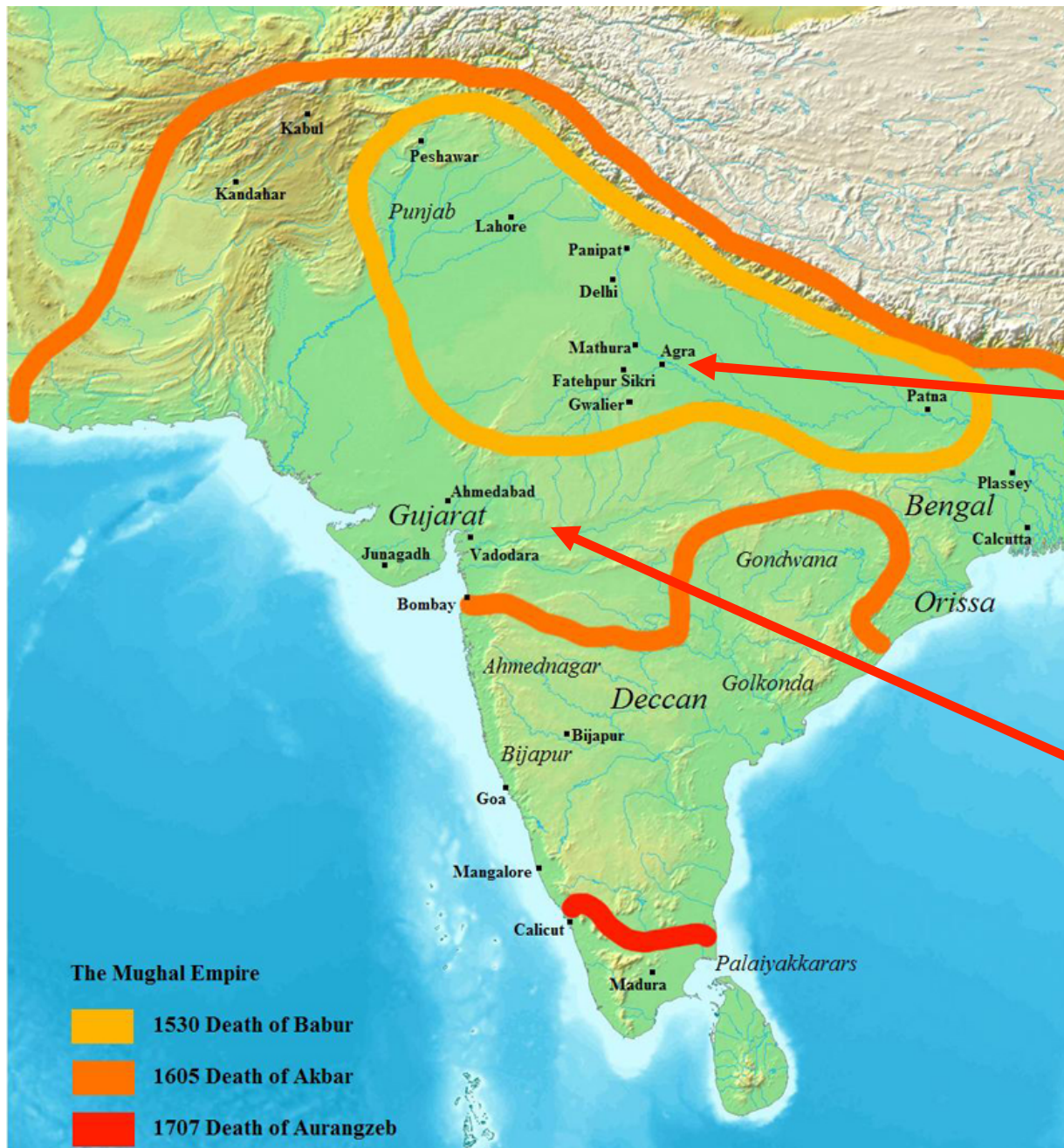


# Rise of Empires: Mughal

- Babur (1482-1530)
  - Traced descent from Mongols
  - Not motivated by religious fervor
- Akbar (1542-1605)
  - Vision was to unite all of India
  - Modernized the military
- Methods
  - Turkish military tradition
  - Gunpowder

Akbar with  
Jesuits by Nar  
Singh, c. 1605







# Rulers at the end of the 16<sup>th</sup> century



Left to Right

- Akbar the Great (1542-1605)
- Elizabeth I "the Virgin Queen" (1533-1603)
- Tokugawa Ieyasu (1543-1616)
- Shah Abbas the Great (1571-1629)

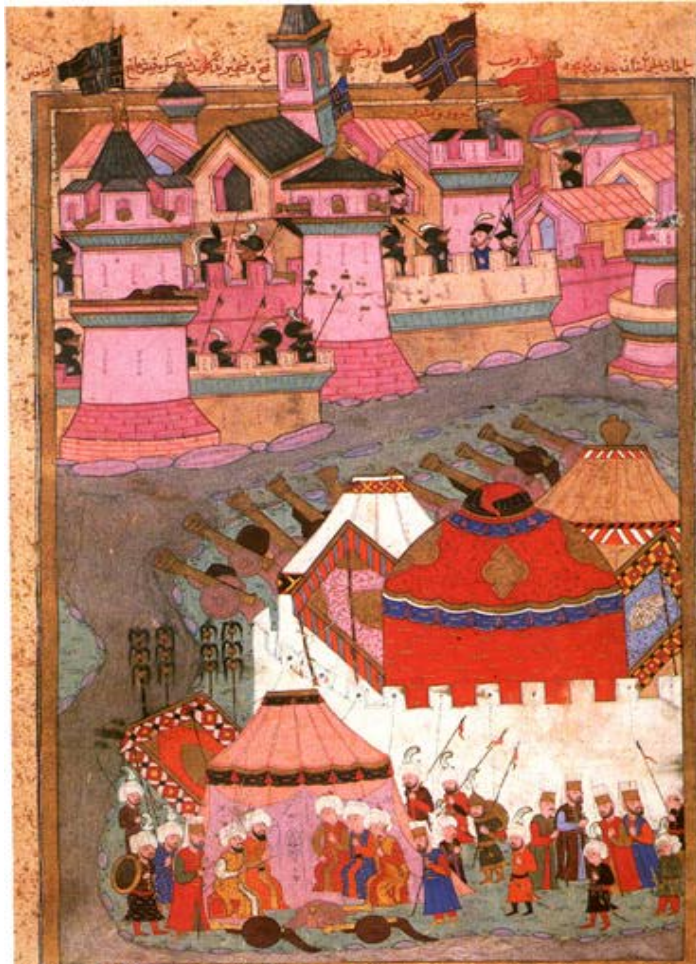
# Political Systems: Russia

- Tsarist Autocracy
  - Bureaucracy
  - Pugachev Rebellion
- European-style military
  - Gunpowder
- Western Expansion
  - Western capital
  - Warm water port
  - Partition of Poland
  - Frequent wars with the Ottoman Empire



# Political Systems: Ottoman

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- ❑ Political Structure
  - Absolute Monarchy
  - Vizier
  - Warrior Aristocracy
  - Janissaries
- ❑ Religious Tolerance
  - Millet System
- ❑ Military Expansion
  - Byzantine Empire
  - Battle of Lepanto
  - Siege of Vienna



# Political Systems: Mughal

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- Political Structure
  - Warrior Aristocracy
  - Weak Bureaucracy
  - Hindus control local administrations
- Religious Tolerance
- Expansion
  - Aurangzeb expands empire into southern India
  - Europeans establish trade colonies





# Social Systems: Russia

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## □ Rise of Serfdom

- Encouraged by the government
  - Lacked the bureaucracy needed to control the people
- Made hereditary in 1649
- Strengthened by Catherine the Great

## □ Conditions of Serfs

- Serfs could be bought & sold
- Used village governments to regulate lives
- Illiterate and very poor

## □ Led to rebellions

- Pugachev rebellion

# Social Systems: Ottoman

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## □ Social Hierarchy

- Warrior aristocracy become landed elite
- Merchants and artisans
  - Guilds
  - Trade controlled by Jews and Christians
- Peasants face heavy burdens from landowners

## □ Gender Roles

- Women subordinate to fathers and husbands
- Few scholarly or artistic opportunities
- Seclusion and veiling were imposed on women of all classes
- Elite women influence politics
  - Hurrem Sultan
- Could participate in trade and moneylending

# Social Systems: Mughal

- ❑ Encouraged widow remarriage
- ❑ Discouraged child marriage
- ❑ Outlawed sati
- ❑ Discouraged female seclusion
  - Special market days for women



Top: practice of sati; Bottom: shrine to women who committed sati

# Culture: Russia

## □ Westernization

### ■ Peter the Great

- Traveled to the West to study science & technology
- Modernized the military & the economy
- Women were given more freedoms
- Encouraged Western culture

Peter the Great



Source: *What is Evidence?* John Murray, Ltd.



# Culture: Russia

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- ❑ Catherine the Great
  - Enlightened despot
  - Built schools and hospitals
  - Religious tolerance
  - Patronized Western art
    - ❑ Hermitage Museum
  - Censored political writings that encouraged democracy and abolition of serfdom
    - ❑ Radishev



Catherine the Great

# Culture: Ottoman

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- ❑ Rebuilt Constantinople
  - Suleymaniye Mosque
  - Built Aqueducts
- ❑ Coffee Houses
  - Center of social life
  - Read poetry & have scholarly discussions
- ❑ Architecture
  - Mimar Sinan compared to Michelangelo



Blue Mosque, Istanbul







# Culture: Mughal

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## □ Architecture

- Combines Hindu & Muslim Styles
  - Taj Mahal

## □ Sikhism

- Founded by Guru Nanak (1469-1539)
- Blend of Islam & Hinduism
- Personal salvation through disciplined, personal meditation on God



A Sikh man in front of the Harimandir Sahib (Golden Temple)





# Ming Dynasty



# Ming Dynasty (1368-1644)

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- Yuan Dynasty came to an end in 1368
  - Chinese attempt to eliminate Mongol cultural influence by emphasizing Chinese traditions
- Ming Government
  - Reestablished Confucian bureaucracy
  - Revived civil service exams
  - Reopened imperial academies
  - Moved capital to Beijing
    - Built the Forbidden City
  - Expanded into Central Asia & Manchuria



# Forbidden City

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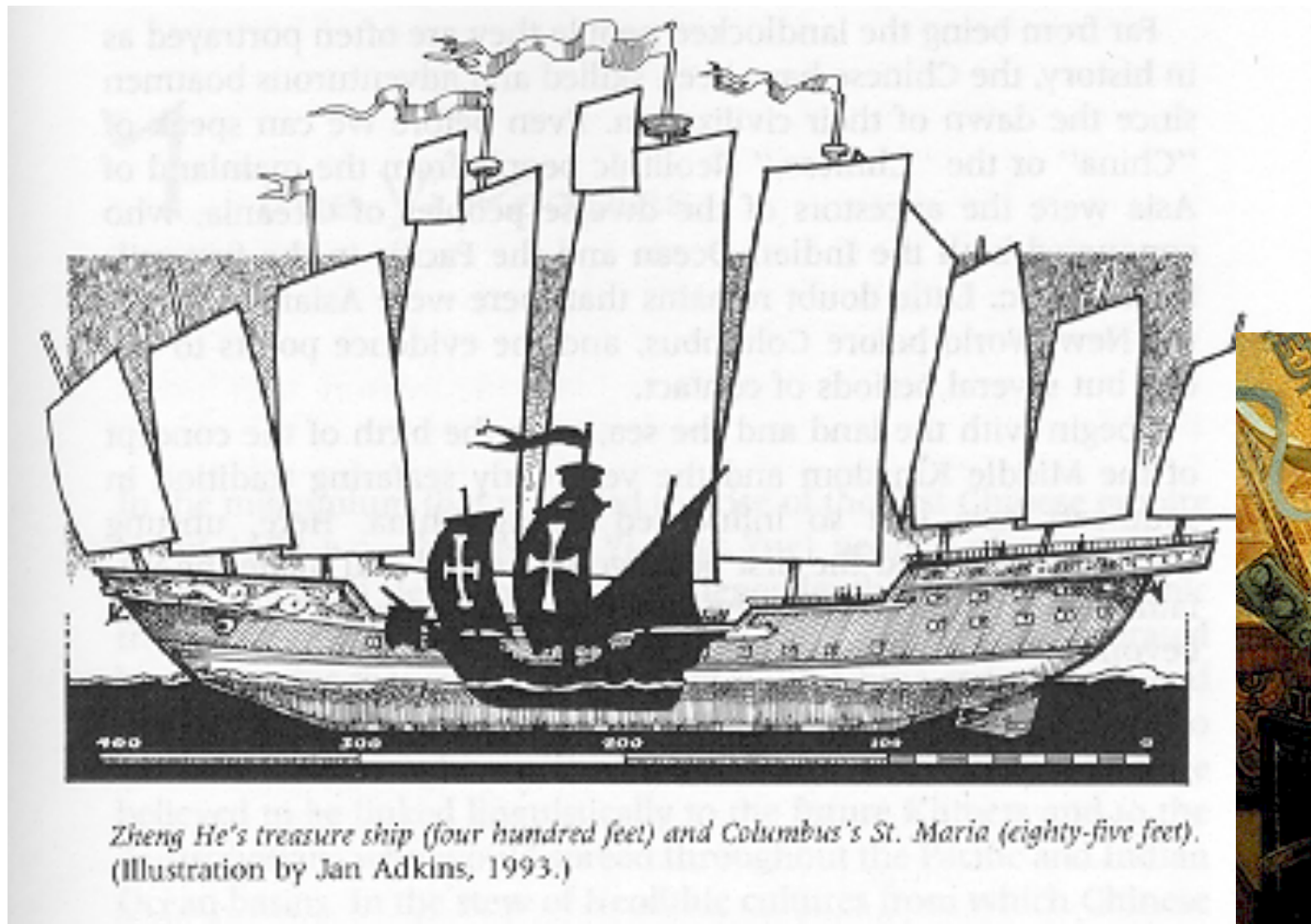
# Ming Economy

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- ❑ New American crops expanded agriculture
  - Sweet potato, maize, peanuts
  - Led to rapid population growth
    - ❑ Went from 100 million in 1500 to 225 million by 1750
- ❑ Population growth aided manufacturing by keeping wages low
  - Limited need for labor saving devices
- ❑ Launched expeditions into the Indian Ocean
  - Zheng He voyages
- ❑ Limited trade with Europeans to Macao & Canton
- ❑ “the Silver Sink”



# Zheng He vs. Columbus



*Zheng He's treasure ship (four hundred feet) and Columbus's St. Maria (eighty-five feet).  
(Illustration by Jan Adkins, 1993.)*



**Zheng He  
Institute**



# Ming Society

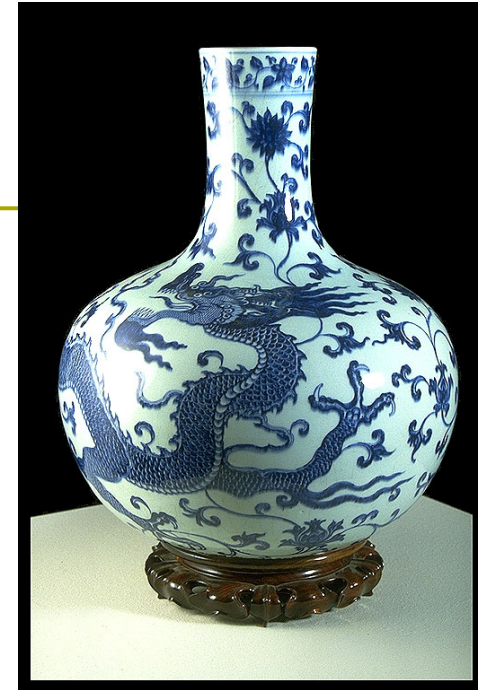
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- ❑ Strengthened traditional Chinese values
  - Filial piety
  - Extended family system
    - ❑ Emphasized loyalty to family
  - Females remained subordinate
    - ❑ Footbinding continued
    - ❑ Female infanticide was not uncommon
    - ❑ Widows were discouraged from remarrying & widow suicide was often encouraged
  - Confucian-based social hierarchy

# Ming Culture

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- ❑ Promoted Neo-Confucianism
- ❑ Emphasized Chinese tradition
- ❑ Literature
  - Monkey, the Water Margin, etc.
- ❑ Pottery
- ❑ the Great Wall



# Fall of the Ming Dynasty

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- ❑ Internal economic collapse
  - Flow of silver and Ming tax policies
- ❑ Disruption of trade
- ❑ Extravagant lifestyle of the imperial family
- ❑ Declining efficiency of the government
- ❑ A series of famines in the early century
- ❑ Peasant revolts
- ❑ External invasions
  - Manchu invaders easily defeated Ming dynasty
    - ❑ Establish the Qing dynasty (1644-1912)



# The Qing Dynasty (1644-1912)

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- ❑ Founded by a Manchu warlord
- ❑ Traditional Chinese dynasty
- ❑ Continue many of the Ming policies
  - Macao/Canton
- ❑ Qing Golden Age
  - Kangxi (1662-1722)
  - Yongzheng (1722-1735)
  - Qianlong (1735-1796)
- ❑ White Lotus Rebellion (1796-1804)



# Unification of Japan

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- ❑ Four centuries of feudal warfare ended in 1600 CE
  - Oda Nobunaga (d. 1582)
    - ❑ Introduced firearms to Japanese warfare
    - ❑ Made alliances with Christian missionaries
  - Toyotomi Hideyoshi (d. 1598)
  - Tokugawa Ieyasu (d. 1616)
    - ❑ Finally unified Japan in 1603
    - ❑ Starting the Tokugawa Shogunate
- ❑ Japan becomes a feudal “monarchy”





# Japanese Isolation

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- ❑ Early support for foreigners replaced with xenophobia
  - Many rejected Chinese learning
  - Supported the “school” of National Learning
- ❑ Passed a series of seclusion acts
  - Japanese seclusion act of 1636
- ❑ Limited influence of the West
  - Dutch were limited to the port of Nagasaki
  - Some interest in Western ideas continued
    - ❑ Schools of Dutch Studies

# Tokugawa Culture

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- Tea houses, brothels, theater, and public baths were popular
  - New forms of theater: kabuki & bunraku (elaborate puppet shows)
- Ukiyo-e or “woodblock prints”

